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A NEW WEST INDIAN POLYCHÆTOUS ANNELID

BY A. L. TREADWELL

Cirratulus pallidus, new species

A single specimen, collected at Montego Bay, Jamaica, British West Indies July 1921, by A. L. Treadwell.

The body is 125 mm. long and 5 mm. wide. The presetal region is 3 mm. long, bluntly conical in outline and 2 mm. broad at the base (Fig. 1). This presetal portion is apparently made up of two body somites and the prostomium, but because of superficial wrinkling it is difficult to determine with accuracy the somite limits. Dorsally, the prostomium has the conical outline mentioned above and has no trace of eyes. Ventrally, the first two somites, which are devoid of setæ, exhibit a flattened

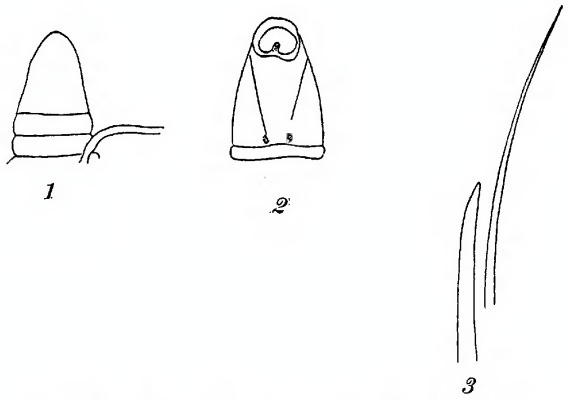

Fig. 1. Dorsal view of head, × 5. Fig. 2. Ventral view of head, × 5. Fig. 3. Hook and seta from near the middle of the body, × 68.

area which is broadest at the mouth and narrows to less than half this width at its posterior end which is on the first setigerous somite (Fig. 2). It looks as if it had a firmer texture and is less pigmented than the areas on either side of it. These latter areas are pigmented and there is, on either side of its posterior end, a much darker pigmented spot.

Gills begin on the first setigerous somite and occur on all somites for the first two-thirds of the length of the body, being entirely absent from the posterior third. The first ones are small, but those immediately following are much larger and longer.

One, taken at random, measured 35 mm. in length. For approximately the first fifty pairs the gills are of this length, making a dense tuft overhanging the dorsal surface of the body. The gills behind this region are much smaller. Dorsal to the gill on the third setigerous somite is a very small tentacle, looking like a reduced gill, and what are evidently scars of attachment of other tentacles extend across the dorsal surface of the third and fourth setigerous somites. No other indication of tentacles appears anywhere on the body.

Anteriorly, both neuropodial and notopodial setæ are slender and sharp-pointed, the neuropodial being somewhat thicker and heavier than the notopodial. In the region of from the 30th to the 50th somites three darker setæ occur in the neuropodium. These are the characteristic hooks (Fig. 3), which are accompanied by a few slender setæ. The notopodial setæ in this region are much heavier than in anterior somites. Toward the posterior end of the body, hooks essentially like those of the earlier neuropodial appear also in the notopodium, while a few of the slender setæ persist.

The type is No. 2012 in The American Museum of Natural History.